# TOWNSHIP OF CLEARWATER KALKASKA COUNTY, MICHIGAN AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MARCH 31, 2008

#### **TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS**

Supervisor David Grimm

Clerk Julie Vance

Treasurer Sheryl Grimm

#### **TRUSTEES**

Bruce Belanger

Huse Johnson

#### TOWNSHIP OF CLEARWATER

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#### James M. Anderson, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

July 15, 2008

Township Board Clearwater Township Kalkaska County, Michigan

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Township of Clearwater, as of and for the year ended March 31, 2008, which collectively comprise the Township's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Township's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to in the first paragraph present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund activity, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Township of Clearwater, as of March 31, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position thereof and for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The management's discussion and analysis on pages 3-8 and budgetary comparison information on pages 27-34 are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. I have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the supplementary information. However, I did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Township Board Clearwater Township July 15, 2008 Page 2

My audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Township of Clearwater's basic financial statements. The introductory section and combining financial statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The combining financial statements have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in my opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The introductory section has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, I express no opinion on them.

JAMES M. ANDERSON, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

As management of Clearwater Township (the "Township"), we offer readers of the Township's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of the Township for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2008.

#### Financial Highlights

- . The assets of the Township exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$1,323,542 (net assets). Of this amount, \$604,920 (unrestricted net assets) may be used to meet the Township's ongoing obligations.
- . The Township's total net assets increased by \$30,219.
- . As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Township's general fund, reported an ending fund balance of \$405,882, an increase of \$22,642 in comparison with the prior year.
- . At the end of the current fiscal year, unreserved fund balance for the general fund was \$405,882 or 135% of total general expenditures.

#### Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Township's basic financial statements. The Township's basic financial statements consist of three components: 1)Government-wide financial statements, 2)Fund financial statements, and 3)Notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplemental information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

**Government-wide financial statements.** The *Government-wide financial statements* are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Township's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The *statement of net assets* presents information on all of the Township's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as *net assets*. Over time, increases or decreases in net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Township is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the Township's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, *regardless of the timing of related cash flows*. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

Both of the Government-wide financial statements present functions of the Township that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities). The governmental activities of the Township include general government, public safety, public works, and other. The Township does not have any business-type activities as of and for the year ended March 31, 2008.

The Government-wide financial statements can be found on pages 9-10 of this report.

**Fund financial statements.** A *fund* is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Township, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of the Township can be divided into two categories: governmental funds and fiduciary funds.

**Governmental funds.** Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the Government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a Township's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the Government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for *governmental funds* with similar information presented for *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between *governmental funds* and *governmental activities*.

The Township maintains three governmental funds. Information is presented in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the General, Fire, and Public Improvement Funds.

The Township adopts an annual appropriated budget for its governmental funds. Budgetary comparison statements or schedules have been provided for the governmental funds herein to demonstrate compliance with the budget.

The basic governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 11 and 13 of this report.

**Fiduciary funds.** Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the Township. Fiduciary funds are *not* reflected in the Government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are *not* available to support the Township's own programs. The accounting used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for proprietary funds.

**Notes to financial statements.** The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 17-26 of this report.

#### Government-wide Financial Analysis

A portion of the Township's net assets (54%) reflects its investments in capital assets (e.g., land, land improvements, buildings, and equipment); less any related debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. The Township uses these capital assets to provide services to the community; consequently, these assets are *not* available for future spending.

#### Township's Net Assets

		nmental vities 2007	Variance	%
Current and Other Assets Capital Assets, Net	\$ 617,877 718,622	\$ 651,132 650,364	\$ (33,255) 68,258	(5.11) 10.50
Total Assets	1,336,499	1,301,496	35,003	2.69
Current Liabilities	12,957	8,173	4,784	58.53
Total Liabilities	12,957	8,173	4,784	58.53
Net Assets Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt Unrestricted	718,622 604,920	650,364 642,959	68,258 (38,039)	10.50 (5.92)
Total Net Assets	<u>\$1,323,542</u>	<u>\$1,293,323</u>	<u>\$ 30,219</u>	2.33

The Township's net assets increased by \$30,219 during the current fiscal year. Unrestricted net assets - the part of net assets that can be used to finance day to day operations, decreased by \$38,039 or 6%, during fiscal year 2008.

#### Township's Changes in Net Assets

	Governmental Activities						
Davienus		2008		2007	\	/ariance	%
Revenue: Program Revenue:							
Charges for services Operating Grants and Contributions Capital Grants and Contributions General Revenue:	\$	59,480 14,153 10,050	\$	36,709 8,000 27,818	\$	22,771 6,153 (17,768)	62.03 76.91 (63.87)
Property Taxes State-Shared Revenues Interest and Rent Earnings Other		172,895 165,241 39,847 3,143		159,954 164,418 27,161 8,053		12,941 823 12,686 (4,910)	8.09 0.50 46.71 (60.97)
Total Revenue		464,809		432,113		32,696	7.57
Expenses:  General Government Public Safety Public Works Health and Welfare Recreation and Culture		219,079 136,578 13,800 1,121 64,012		207,579 106,715 12,359 1,378 49,548		11,500 29,863 1,441 (257) 14,464	5.54 27.98 11.66 (18.65) 29.19
Total Expenses		434,590		337 <b>,</b> 579		57 <b>,</b> 011	15.10
Increase in Net Assets		30,219		54,534		(24,315)	(44.59)
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	1	,293,323		1,238,789		54,534	4.40
Net Assets, End of Year	<u>\$ 1</u>	,323,542	\$	1,293,323	\$	30,219	2.34

**Governmental activities.** The Township's total governmental revenues increased by \$32,696 from last fiscal year. This was primarily attributed to increases in property tax and interest revenue. Expenses increased by \$57,011. The increase was primarily due to the park capital improvements and additional expenditures in the Fire Fund.

#### Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds

As noted earlier, the Township uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, the Township's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$604,920, a decrease of \$38,039 in comparison with the prior year. The *undesignated fund balance*, which is available for spending at the Township's discretion, constitutes 100% of this total amount.

The primary governmental fund is the General Fund of the Township. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unreserved fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures. Undesignated fund balance represents 135% of total general fund expenditures.

The fund balance of the General Fund increased by \$22,642 during the current fiscal year.

#### General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The Township's budgets are prepared in accordance with Michigan Law. The budgeted funds are the General, Fire, and Public Improvement Funds.

#### Capital Assets and Debt Administration

**Capital assets.** The Township's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities as of March 31, 2008, amounted to \$718,622 (net of accumulated depreciation). Investment in capital assets includes land, land improvements, buildings, and equipment. Additions totaled \$117,767 for the fiscal year.

### Township's Capital Assets (net of depreciation)

Land and Improvements Buildings and Improvements Machinery and Equipment	\$ 2008 200,720 399,476 118,426	\$ 2007 120,025 407,591 122,748	Percentage Change 67.23 1.99 3.52
Total	\$ 718,622	\$ 650,364	10.49

 $T_0 + 1$ 

Additional information on the Township's capital assets can be found in note E on page 23 of this report.

#### Factors Bearing on the Township's Future

The following factors were considered in preparing the Township's budget for the 2008-2009 fiscal year:

Clearwater Township is in excellent financial condition. The Township has no lawsuits pending against it that could affect the general fund or fire fund accounts. The Township is now entering into an agreement to purchase five acres of land that adjoins the Clearwater Township Cemetery that will be utilized as an addition to the cemetery. The cost of the additional cemetery land will be \$28,350 which will be paid from the General Fund Account. The Township is also proceeding to finish the streetlights along Rapid City Road in the village area and the cost of construction is approximately \$52,186 which is paid from the Public Improvement Fund Account.

All building and properties owned by the Township are well maintained and are in good condition. The Fire Hall will need a new heating system which the Township will seek bids for sometime in the near future. We are happy to say that the ball fields and recreation area south of Rapid City "Heritage Park" are complete and have had a lot of use. Due to our geographic location we experience many people coming here that spend money at local retails and service facilities that reside in Clearwater Township. We also believe that there has been a change of how people perceive our community due to the improvements to infrastructure and the cleanup of blighted areas throughout the Township. This pretty much covers things as to the "State of the Township" other than we would like to add that Clearwater Township is a great place to live because of it's people, proximity to Traverse City and many lakes, rivers and parks that are available for all to enjoy.

#### Requests for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Township's finances for all those with an interest in the government's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to:

Clearwater Township P.O. Box 1 Kalkaska, MI 49676

#### TOWNSHIP OF CLEARWATER STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS MARCH 31, 2008

ASSETS	Governmental <u>Activities</u>
Current Assets:     Cash and investments     Receivables:     Taxes Receivable     Interest Receivable     Other Governmental Units	\$ 559,875 21,649 10,761 25,592
Total Current Assets	617,877
Non-Current Assets: Capital Assets - Net Total Assets	718,622 1,336,499
LIABILITIES	
Current Liabilities: Accounts Payable Accrued liabilities Total Current Liabilities	9,714 3,243 12,957
NET ASSETS	
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt Unrestricted	718,622 604,920
Total Net Assets	<u>\$ 1,323,542</u>

#### TOWNSHIP OF CLEARWATER STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	<u>Expenses</u>		rges for ervices	Gra	rating nts and <u>ributions</u>	Gra	pital nts and <u>ributions</u>	Net	(Expense) Revenue
General Public Safety Public Works Health and Welfare Recreation and Culture	\$ (219,079) (136,578) (13,800) (1,121) (64,012)	\$	59,480 -0- -0- -0- -0-	\$	6,153 8,000 -0- -0- -0-	\$	-0- -0- -0- -0- 10,050	\$	(153,446) (128,578) (13,800) (1,121) (53,962)
Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$ (434,590</u> )	<u>\$</u>	59,480	\$	14,153	<u>\$</u>	10,050		(350,907)
GENERAL REVENUES									
Property Taxes Levied for: General Purpose Public Safety State Shared Revenue not r Miscellaneous Investment Earnings		pecifi	ic purpose	es				_	75,377 97,518 165,241 3,143 39,847
Total General Rever	iues								381,126
Change in Net Asset	S								30,219
Net Assets - April	1								1,293,323
Net Assets - March	31							\$	1,323,542

#### TOWNSHIP OF CLEARWATER COMBINING BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS MARCH 31, 2008

ASSETS	General	<u>Fire</u>	Public <u>Improvement</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Cash and investments Taxes receivable Interest receivable Due from other governmental units	\$ 366,860 10,972 10,761 25,592	\$ 128,373 10,677 -0- 0-	\$ 64,642 -0- -0- -0-	\$ 559,875 21,649 10,761 25,592
Total Assets	<u>\$ 414,185</u>	<u>\$ 139,050</u>	<u>\$ 64,642</u>	<u>\$ 617,877</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY				
Liabilities: Accounts payable Accrued liabilities	\$ 5,688 2,615	\$ 4,026 628	\$ -0- -0-	\$ 9,714 3,243
Total Liabilities	8,303	4,654		12,957
Fund Equity: Fund balance:				
Undesignated	405,882	134,396	64,642	604,920
Total Fund Equity	405,882	134,396	64,642	604,920
Total Liabilities and Fund Equity	<u>\$ 414,185</u>	<u>\$ 139,050</u>	<u>\$ 64,642</u>	<u>\$ 617,877</u>

# TOWNSHIP OF CLEARWATER RECONCILIATION OF FUND BALANCES ON BALANCE SHEET FOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO NET ASSETS OF GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES ON THE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS MARCH 31, 2008

TOTAL FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

604,920

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Assets are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not current financial resources and therefore are not recorded in the funds. This represents the amounts by which capital assets used in governmental funds exceeds accumulated depreciation.

718,622

TOTAL NET ASSETS - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

\$ 1,323,542

# TOWNSHIP OF CLEARWATER COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

Revenues:	<u>General</u>	Fire	Public <u>Improvement</u>	Totals
Taxes and assessments Intergovernmental Charges for services Licenses and permits Interest Other	\$ 75,377 165,241 58,080 1,400 31,836 11,141	\$ 97,518 8,000 -0- -0- 3,379 2,052	\$ -0- 6,153 -0- -0- 4,632 -0-	\$ 172,895 179,394 58,080 1,400 39,847 13,193
Total Revenues	<u>343,075</u>	<u>110,949</u>	<u>10,785</u>	464,809
Expenditures: General government Public safety Public works Health and welfare Recreation	202,537 17,404 13,800 1,121 65,571	-0- 110,861 -0- -0- -0-	91,554 -0- -0- -0- -0-	294,091 128,265 13,800 1,121 65,571
Total Expenditures Excess:	300,433	110,861	91,554	502,848
Revenue over (under) expenditures	42,642	88	(80,769)	(38,039)
Other financing sources (uses): Operating transfers in Operating transfers (out)	-0- (20,000)	-0- -0-	20,000 -0-	20,000 (20,000)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses) Excess:	(20,000)	0-	20,000	
Revenue and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other Uses	22,642	88	(60,769)	(38,039)
Fund Balance - April 1	383,240	134,308	125,411	642,959
Fund Balance - March 31	\$ 405,882	<u>\$ 134,396</u>	<u>\$ 64,642</u>	\$ 604,920

# TOWNSHIP OF CLEARWATER RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCES - TOTAL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

\$ (38,039)

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However in the statement of activities, the cost of these assets are capitalized and depreciation charged to expense over their useful life.

68,258

CHANGES IN NET ASSETS - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

\$ 30,219

#### TOWNSHIP OF CLEARWATER STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS MARCH 31, 2008

# ASSETS Cash and Investments LIABILITIES Undistributed Collections Total Liabilities NET ASSETS Net Assets \$ -0-

# TOWNSHIP OF CLEARWATER STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

REVENUES	
Property Tax Collections	\$ 2,786,665
Interest and Fee Collections	<u>15,615</u>
Total Revenues	2,802,280
EXPENDITURES	
Property Taxes	2,786,665
Other	15,615
Total Expenditures	2,802,280
·	
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	-0-
·	
Net Assets - April 1	
Net Assets Maush 21	¢ 0
Net Assets - March 31	<u>\$ -0-</u>

#### NOTE A: ENTITY

The Township of Clearwater is a general law township of the state of Michigan located in Kalkaska County, Michigan. It operates under an elected board and provides services to its residents in many areas including liquor law enforcement, community enrichment, and human services. As required by generally accepted accounting principles and Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement no. 14 "The Financial Reporting Entity", these financial statements present the Township of Clearwater (primary government) and its component units. The criteria established by the GASB for determining the reporting entity includes oversight responsibility, fiscal dependency, and whether the financial statements would be misleading if data were not included.

#### NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of the Township of Clearwater conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of the more significant policies.

<u>GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u>: The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statements of net assets and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government and its component units. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. *Governmental activities*, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from *business-type activities*, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support.

Likewise, the *primary government* is reported separately from certain legally separate *component units* for which the primary government is financially accountable.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. *Direct expenses* are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. *Indirect expenses* are charged based upon a Township-wide cost allocation plan which allocates costs based upon the number of full time equivalents, number of transactions, and other pertinent information. *Program revenues* include (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items are not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as *general revenues*.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds and major individual enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

#### NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED):

MEASUREMENT FOCUS, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION: The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the proprietary fund and fiduciary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the *current financial resources measurement focus* and the *modified accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be *available* when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Grant revenues are considered to be available when all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures and select compensated absences are recorded only when payment is due.

Property taxes, intergovernmental revenue, charges for services and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. Only the portion of special assessments receivable due within the current fiscal period is considered to be susceptible to accrual as revenue of the current period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the Township.

The Township reports following major governmental funds:

The *General Fund* is the Township's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

The *Fire Fund* is used to account for all financial activity related to the Township's capital investments. The main source of revenue is derived from property taxes.

The *Public Improvement* is used to account for activity related to the Township's capital investments. The major source of revenue is from General Fund transfers and interest.

#### NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

#### MEASUREMENT FOCUS BASIS OF ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION (CONTINUED)

The Township does not maintain any non-major governmental funds as of March 31, 2008.

Additionally, the Township reports the following fund types:

Agency Funds are used to account for assets held on behalf of outside parties, including other governments.

Property tax revenues are recognized as follows:

Properties are assessed as of December 31 and the related property taxes are levied on December 1 of the following year. These taxes are due on February 15; uncollected amounts are subsequently added to the county delinquent tax rolls. A county revolving fund normally pays the balance of the Township's tax levy by May 31 of each year. In accordance with GASB 33 "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions", the Township records the property tax revenue when it becomes an enforceable legal claim for the Township. Therefore, all taxes levied on December 1, 2007, are recorded as revenue in the current year. The Township's taxable value for the 2007 tax year totaled \$103,183,876.

The tax rates for the year ended March 31, 2008, were as follows:

<u>PURPOSE</u>	RATE/AS	<u>SESSED</u>	VALU	<u>JATION</u>
General	0.7268	mills	per	\$1,000
Fire	0.9348	mills	per	\$1,000

<u>BUDGETS</u> - Public Act 621 of 1978 as amended provides that a local unit shall not incur expenditures in excess of the amount appropriated. The approved budgets of the Township for budgetary funds were adopted on a fund level. Budgets are normally formulated during January and February of each year and a budget hearing is held in March. The board normally adopts the budget just prior to April 1. Amendments are made to the budgets when determined to be necessary throughout the year. Unused appropriations for budgeted activities lapse at the end of the year. The budget amounts shown in the financial statements are the final authorized amounts as revised during the year.

<u>ESTIMATES</u> - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### NOTE B - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

<u>CAPITAL ASSETS</u> - Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, bridges, sidewalks, and similar items), are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$1,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Such assets are valued at cost where historical records are available and at an estimated historical cost where no historical records exists. Donated capital assets are valued at their estimated fair value on the date received.

The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized. Improvements are capitalized and depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets, as applicable.

No interest expense has been incurred or capitalized on capital assets reported in proprietary funds.

Depreciation on the capital assets (including infrastructure), is computed using the straight-line or sum-of-the-years digits method over the following estimated useful lives:

	<u>Years</u>
Land improvements	20
Buildings	30-50
Public domain infrastructure	8-50
Equipment	3-20

<u>LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS</u> - In the government-wide financial statements, the long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities. For new bond issuances after the implementation of GASB Statement No. 34, bond premiums and discounts, as well as issuance costs, are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method which approximates the effective interest method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

#### NOTE C - CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The captions on the balance sheets related to deposits and investments are as follows:

	Checking & Savings			rtificates of <u>Deposit</u>		<u>Total</u>
Governmental Activities Agency funds	\$	327 <b>,</b> 652 -0-	\$	232 <b>,</b> 223 -0-	\$	559 <b>,</b> 875 -0-
Total	<u>\$</u>	327,652	<u>\$</u>	232,223	<u>\$</u>	559,875

<u>Deposits</u> - At year-end, the carrying amount of the Township's deposits was \$559,875 and the bank balance was \$577,192. According to Section 330.8 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Rules and Regulations, 69% of the total bank balance was covered by federal depository insurance.

The Government Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 3 risk disclosures for Clearwater Township's cash deposits are as follows:

	Larrying	Bank
	 Amount	 <u>Balance</u>
Insured (FDIC)	\$ 400,000	\$ 400,000
Uninsured and Uncollateralized	 159 <b>,</b> 875	 177 <b>,</b> 192
Total Deposits	\$ 559 <b>,</b> 875	\$ 577 <b>,</b> 192

#### <u>Custodial Credit Risk</u>

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, a government will not be able to recover its deposits or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. Michigan law and Township's investment policy do not contain legal or policy requirements that would limit the exposure to custodial credit risk for investments. With respect to investments, custodial credit risk generally applies only to direct investments in marketable securities. Custodial credit risk does not apply to local government's indirect investment in securities through the use of mutual funds or government investment pools.

#### Interest Rate Risk

The Township has not adopted a policy that indicates how the Township will minimize interest rate risk, which is the risk that the market value of securities in the portfolio will fall due to changes in market interest rates, by limiting the weighted average maturity of its investment portfolio to less than a given period of time.

#### Concentration of Credit Risk

The Township has adopted a policy that indicates how the Township will minimize concentration of credit risk, which is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of the Township's investment in a single issuer, by diversifying the investment portfolio so that the impact of potential losses from any one type of security or issuer will be minimized.

<u>Investments</u> - P.A. 20 of 1943, authorizes the Township to deposit and invest in the following:

- a. Bonds and other direct obligations of the United States or its agencies.
- b. Certificates of deposit, savings accounts, deposit accounts, or depository receipts of federally insured banks, insured savings and loan associations or credit unions insured by the national credit union administration that are eligible to be depository of surplus money belonging to the State under section 5 or 6 of act 105, PA 1855, as amended (MCL 21.145 and 21.146).
- c. Commercial paper rated at time of purchase within the three highest classifications established by not less than two standard rating services. Maturity cannot be more than 270 days after purchase.
- d. United States governmental or Federal agency obligation repurchase agreements.
- e. Bankers' acceptance of United States banks.
- f. Mutual funds composed of investments which are legal for direct investments by local units of government in Michigan.

#### NOTE D - DUE FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

Due from other governmental units consists of amounts due from the State of Michigan of \$25,592.

#### NOTE E - CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended March 31, 2008 was as follows:

Primary Government			Fad of	
Beginning Governmental activities: Land	of year \$ 23,816	Increases \$ -0-	End of <u>Decreases</u> \$ -0-	Year \$ 23,816
Total capital Assets, not being depreciated	23,816			23,816
Capital assets, being depreciated: Land Improvements Building and improvements Machinery and equipment	101,588 481,336 215,051	85,923 11,636 20,208	-0- -0- -0-	187,511 492,972 235,259
Total capital assets, being depreciated	797,975	117,767		915,742
Less accumulated depreciation for: Land improvements Buildings and improvements Machinery and equipment	5,379 73,745 92,303	5,228 19,751 24,530	-0- -0- -0-	10,607 93,496 116,833
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>171,427</u>	49,509		220,936
Net capital assets, being depreciated	626,548	68,258	-0-	694,806
Net governmental activities capital assets	<u>\$ 650,364</u>	\$ 68 <b>,</b> 258	<u>\$ -0-</u>	<u>\$ 718,622</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the primary government as follows:

Governmental activities: General government Public safety Recreation	\$ 14,769 15,640 19,100
Total depreciation expense - governmental activities	\$ 49,509

#### NOTE F - PARTIAL SELF-INSURANCE

The Township is a member of the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority. As a member of the Authority, the Township is partially self-insured for general and auto liability, motor vehicle physical damage and property loss claims. Under most circumstances, the municipality's maximum coverage is limited as follows:

Type	<u>Limit</u>	<u>Deductible</u>
Property Liability Errors and Omission Automobiles Crime Inland Marine Workmen's	\$ 1,209,398 5,000,000 4,000,000 3,000,000 10,000 104,500	100 -0- -0- 100 -0- 100
Compensation	STATUTORY	-0-

#### NOTE G - PENSION PLANS

#### Plan Description

Clearwater Township participates in a defined benefit retirement plan administered by the Michigan Municipal Employees Retirement System, (MERS). The Townships payroll for the 1 member covered by the system for the year ended December 31, 2007 was \$33,365.

The Municipal Employees Retirement System of Michigan (MERS) is a multiple-employer statewide public employee retirement plan created by the State of Michigan to provide retirement, survivor and disability benefits, on a voluntary basis to the State's local government employees in the most efficient and effective manner possible. As such, MERS is a non-profit entity qualified under section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, which has the responsibility of administering the law in accordance with the expressed intent of the Legislature and bears a fiduciary obligation to the State of Michigan, the taxpayers and the public employees who are its beneficiaries.

The passage of HB-5525/Act No. 220, with enactment on May 28, 1996, allowed the members of MERS to vote on and determine if MERS should become an independent public corporation. The vote resulted in approval to become independent of State control and MERS began to operate as an independent public corporation effective August 15, 1996. MERS issues a financial report, available to the pubic, that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the system. A copy of the report may be obtained by writing to MERS at 1134 Municipal Way, Lansing, Michigan 49817.

#### NOTE G - PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

All full time Township employees are eligible to participate in the system. Benefits vest after ten years of service. Township employees who retire at or after age 60 with 10 years credited service or 50 with 25 years credited service are entitled to an annual retirement benefit, payable monthly for life, in an amount equal to 2.5% of the members's 3-year final average compensation with a maximum benefit of 80% of the 3-year final average compensation. The system also provides death and disability benefits which are established by the State Statute.

Actuarial Accrued Liability - The actuarial accrued liability was determined as part of an actuarial valuation of the plan as of December 31, 2007. Significant actuarial assumptions used in determining the investment of present and future assets of 8.0%, (b) projected salary increases of 4.5% per year compounded annually, attributable to inflation, and (c) additional projected salary increases of 0.0% to 4.2% per year, depending on age, attributable to seniority/merit and (d) the assumption that benefits will increase 2.5% annually after retirement.

All entries are based on the actuarial methods and assumption that were used in the December 31, 2007 actuarial valuation to determine the annual employer contribution amounts. The entry age normal actuarial methods was used to determine the entries at disclosure.

#### GASB 25 INFORMATION (as of 12/31/07)

#### Actuarial Accrued Liability:

Retirees and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	\$	-0-
Terminated employees not yet receiving benefits		-0-
Current Employees: Accumulated employee contributions including allocated investment income		-0-
Employer financed		54,242
Total actuarial accrued liability		54,242
Net assets available for benefits, at actuarial value (Market value is \$45,525)		45,000
Unfunded (over funded) actuarial accrued liability	<u>\$</u>	9,242
GASB 27 INFORMATION (as of 12/31/07)		
Fiscal year beginning	April	1, 2009
Annual required contribution (ARC)	\$	5,568
Amortization factor used		.055889

#### NOTE G - PENSION PLANS (CONTINUED)

Contributions Required and Contributions Made - MERS funding policy provides for periodic employer contributions at actuarially determined rates that, expressed as percentages of annual covered payroll, are designed to accumulate sufficient assets to pay benefits when due. The normal cost and amortization payment for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2007 were determined using the entry age normal actuarial funding method. Unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities, if any, were amortized as a level percent of payroll over a period of 30 years. The following table provides a schedule of contribution amounts and percentages for recent years.

<u>Annual Pension Cost</u>	<u>.</u>			
Year	Α	nnual	Percentage	Net
Ended	Р	ension	Of APC	Pension
March 31,	Cos	t (APC)	<u>Contributed</u>	<u>Obligation</u>
2005	\$	8,987	100%	\$ -0-
2006	•	5,266	100%	-0-
2007		5,586	100%	-0-

The Township was required to contribute \$4,944 for the year ended March 31, 2008. Payments were based on contribution calculations made by MERS.

#### Aggregate Accrued Liabilities - Comparative Schedule

Actuarial Valuation Date <u>December 31</u>	۷a	uarial lue of sets	Ac Lia	uarial crued bility (AAL)	ŀ	funded AAL JAAL)	Funded Ratio	vered yroll	UAAL as a % Of Covered Payroll
2005 2006	\$	28,599 36,418	\$	37,058 45,972	\$	8,459 9,554	77% 79%	\$ 29,667 31,702	
2007		45,000		54,242		9,242	83%	33,365	

For actuarial valuation purposes, the actuarial value of assets is determined on the basis of a calculation method that assumes the fund earns the expected rate of return (8%), and includes an adjustment to reflect market value.

REQUIRED
SUPPLEMENTARY
INFORMATION

	Original Budget	Final Amended Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable ( <u>Unfavorable</u> )	
Revenues: Taxes and Assessments: General property taxes	\$ 73 <b>,</b> 500	\$ 73,500	\$ 75 <b>,</b> 377	\$ 1,877	
Total Taxes and Assessments	73,500	73,500	75,377	1,877	
<pre>Intergovernmental:    State shared revenues    State swamp tax</pre>	100,000 2,000	100,000 2,000	162,870 2,371	62,870 371	
Total Intergovernmental	102,000	102,000	<u>165,241</u>	63,241	
Charges for Services: Fees Rent	45,000 1,500	45,000 1,500	56,505 1,57 <u>5</u>	11,505 7 <u>5</u>	
Total Charges for Services	46,500	46,500	<u>58,080</u>	11,580	
Licenses and Permits	2,700	2,700	1,400	(1,300)	
Interest	5,000	5,000	31,836	<u>26,836</u>	
Other: Private Contributions Miscellaneous Total Other	-0- 1,500 1,500	-0- 1,500 1,500	10,050 1,091 11,141	10,050 (409) 9,641	
Total Revenue	231,200	231,200	<u>343,075</u>	<u>111,875</u>	

General Government	 Original Budget	Α	Final mended udget	A	<u>ctual</u>	Fa	riance vorable avorable)
Township Board: Salaries-board Payroll taxes Legal fees Professional services Mileage Insurance Printing and publishing Office supplies Education/training Equipment	\$ 5,000 11,250 3,000 4,000 200 15,000 1,000 6,000 1,000	\$	5,000 11,250 3,000 4,000 200 15,000 1,000 6,000 1,000	\$	4,050 10,024 462 3,540 -0- 12,807 1,621 7,193 -0- -0-	\$	950 1,226 2,538 460 200 2,193 (621) (1,193) 1,000 1,000
Total Township Board	 47 <b>,</b> 450		47,450		39,697		7,753
Township Supervisor: Salary Wages - deputy Professional services Contract services Mileage Office supplies Education/training Equipment	21,000 500 1,000 1,000 200 1,000 300 1,000		21,000 500 1,000 1,000 200 1,000 300 1,000		20,500 -0- -0- -0- 5,408 -0- -0-		500 500 1,000 1,000 200 (4,408) 300 1,000
Total Township Supervisor	 26,000		26,000		25,908		<u>92</u>

General Government (continued	Original <u>Budget</u> )	Final Amended Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable ( <u>Unfavorable</u> )
Election Board: Services Mileage Office supplies Professional services Printing and publishing Education/training	\$ 7,500 600 5,500 2,000 1,000 1,000	\$ 7,500 600 5,500 2,000 1,000 1,000	\$ 2,615 68 704 -0- 21 -0-	\$ 4,885 532 4,796 2,000 979 1,000
Total Election Board	<u>17,600</u>	<u> 17,600</u>	3,408	14,192
Township Clerk: Salary - clerk Salary - deputy Professional services Mileage Office supplies Printing and publishing Education/training Equipment	12,000 9,500 400 500 200 1,000 3,000	12,000 9,500 400 500 500 200 1,000 3,000	12,000 6,749 -0- 70 650 -0- -0- 1,750	-0- 2,751 400 430 (150) 200 1,000 1,250
Total Township Clerk	27,100	27,100	21,219	<u>5,881</u>
Township Treasurer: Salary - treasurer Salary - deputy Mileage Office supplies Software Postage Printing and publishing Education/training Equipment	12,500 6,000 500 4,500 -0- 4,000 500 500 3,000	12,500 6,000 500 4,500 -0- 4,000 500 500 3,000	12,500 5,055 329 2,412 1,214 -0- 90 35 1,660	-0- 945 171 2,088 (1,214) 4,000 410 465 1,340
Total Township Treasurer	31,500	31,500	23,295	8,205
Board of Review: Salaries Office supplies Printing and publishing Total Board of Review	3,000 -0- 3,000 6,000	3,000 -0- 3,000	1,332 32 25 	1,668 (32) <u>2,975</u> 4,611

### TOWNSHIP OF CLEARWATER GENERAL FUND

### STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE BUDGET AND ACTUAL

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

General Government (continued	Original Budget )	Final Amended <u>Budget</u>	Actual	Variance Favorable ( <u>Unfavorable</u> )
Township Hall: Custodial wages Retirement Mileage Contract services Supplies Utilities Repairs and maintenance Equipment/building	\$ 14,000 2,600 500 7,500 5,000 10,500 15,000 4,000	2,600 500 7,500 5,000 10,500 15,000	\$ 13,149 4,250 -0- 9,265 859 8,187 7,053 2,550	\$ 851 (1,650) 500 (1,765) 4,141 2,313 7,947 1,450
Total Township Hall	59,100	<u>59,100</u>	45,313	<u>13,787</u>
Community Center:    Maintenance wages    Retirement    Supplies    Utilities    Repairs and maintenance    Equipment/building     Total Community Center  Cemetery:    Maintenance wages	3,000 2,600 900 3,600 1,500 500	2,600 900 3,600 1,500 500	2,390 -0- 981 3,568 2,810 -0- 9,749	610 2,600 (81) 32 (1,310) 500 2,351
Maintenance wages Retirement Contract services Utilities Repairs and maintenance	3,000 2,600 4,000 250 3,000	2,600 4,000 250	1,472 9,617 5,610 244 1,050	1,528 (7,017) (1,610) 6 1,950
Equipment/building	500			500
Total Cemetery	13,350	13,350	17,993	(4,643)
Zoning: Salaries Mileage Legal Contract services Office supplies Printing & publishing Education/training	18,800 400 7,500 1,500 -0- 2,000 1,500	400 7,500 1,500 -0- 2,000	11,833 618 1,276 -0- 670 169	6,967 (218) 6,224 1,500 (670) 1,831 1,500
Total Zoning Total General	31,700	<u>31,700</u>	14,566	<u>17,134</u>
Government	271,900	271,900	202,537	69,363

	Original <u>Budget</u>	Final Amended <u>Budget</u>	Actual	Variance Favorable ( <u>Unfavorable</u> )
Public Safety: Police patrol	\$ 16,50	<u>\$ 16,500</u>	\$ 17,404	<u>\$ (904)</u>
Total Public Safety	16,50	16,500	<u>17,404</u>	(904)
Public Works: Street light utilities Repairs and maintenance	10,000	•	8,540 5,260	1,460 
Total Public Works	16,00	16,000	13,800	2,200
Health and Welfare Hospital services Health representation Total Health and Welfare	1,000 1,200 2,200	1,200	971 150	29 1,050
		2,200	<u>1,121</u>	<u> </u>
Recreation:    Custodian wages    Retirement    Office supplies    Utilities    Repairs and maintenance    Capital outlay	22,00 2,60 -0- 3,00 5,00 35,00	2,600 -0- 3,000 5,000	21,077 907 234 2,080 20,614 20,659	923 1,693 (234) 920 (15,614) 14,341
Total Recreation	67,60	67,600	65,571	2,029
Contingency	37,00	37,000		37,000
Total Expenditures	411,20	411,200	300,433	110,767

Excess:		Original Budget	Final Amended Budget	 <u>Actual</u>	F	ariance avorable <u>sfavorable</u> )
Revenues over (under) expenditures	\$	(180,000)	\$ (180,000)	\$ 42,642	<u>\$</u>	222,642
Other Financing Sources (Uses Operating transfers out	s): _	(20,000)	 (20,000)	 (20,000)		-0-
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		(20,000)	 (20,000)	 (20,000)		-0-
Excess:  Revenue and other financing sources over (under)  expenditures and other financing uses	g	(200,000)	(200,000)	22,642		222,642
Fund Balance - April 1		383,240	 383,240	 383,240		-0-
Fund Balance - March 31	\$	183,240	\$ 183,240	\$ 405,882	\$	222,642

	Original Budget		Final Amended Budget		Actual		Variance Favorable ( <u>Unfavorable</u> )	
Revenues:     Taxes     Townships     Interest     Other	\$	91,000 8,000 2,500 400	\$	91,000 8,000 2,500 400	\$	97,518 8,000 3,379 2,052	\$	6,518 -0- 879 1,652
Total Revenues		101,900		101,900		110,949		9,049
Expenditures:     Personal service     Fringe benefits     Utilities     Vehicle     Office supplies     Training & education     Insurance     Supplies/repairs/maintenance     Equipment/building     Other      Total Expenditures		30,000 2,500 7,500 6,000 600 5,000 10,000 27,000 11,000 47,300		30,000 2,500 7,500 6,000 600 5,000 10,000 27,000 11,000 47,300		42,244 3,337 5,472 4,581 3,722 2,061 8,942 33,175 7,327 -0-		(12,244) (837) 2,028 1,419 (3,122) 2,939 1,058 (6,175) 3,673 47,300
Excess:				_		_		
Revenues over (under) expenditures		(45,000)		(45,000)		88		45,088
Fund Balance - April 1		134,308		134,308		134,308		-0-
Fund Balance - March 31	\$	89,308	<u>\$</u>	89,308	<u>\$</u>	134,396	\$	45,088

	Original Budget	Final Amended Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable ( <u>Unfavorable</u> )	
Revenues: State Interest	\$ -0- 2,000	\$ -0- 2,000	\$ 6,153 4,632	\$ 6,153 2,632	
Total Revenues	2,000	2,000	10 <b>,</b> 785	8,785	
Expenditures: Capital outlay	146,500	146,500	91,554	54,946	
Total Expenditures	146,500	146,500	91,554	<u>54,946</u>	
Excess: Revenues over (under) expenditures	(144,500)	(144,500)	(80,769)	63,731	
Other Financing Sources (uses): Operating Transfer In	20,000	20,000	20,000		
Total Other Financing Sources (uses)	20,000	20,000	20,000		
Excess:  Revenues & other financing sources over (under)	(124 500)	(124,500)	(60,769)	63,731	
expenditures	(124,500)	, , ,		•	
Fund Balance - April 1	<u>125,411</u>	<u>125,411</u>	<u>125,411</u>		
Fund Balance - March 31	<u>\$ 911</u>	<u>\$ 911</u>	\$ 64,642	\$ 63,731	



#### James M. Anderson, P.C.

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### COMMUNICATION OF SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES AND MATERIAL WEAKNESSES

July 15, 2008

Township Board Clearwater Township Kalkaska County, Michigan

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Township of Clearwater, Michigan as of and for the year ended March 31, 2008, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, I considered Clearwater Township's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing my auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing my opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the governmental unit's internal control. Accordingly I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the governmental unit's internal control.

My consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, I identified certain deficiencies in internal control that I consider to be material weaknesses.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or a combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the entity's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the entity's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the entity's internal control. I consider the following deficiencies to be significant deficiencies in internal control.

The relatively small number of people involved in the accounting functions of the Township and the design of the accounting system as developed by the state make it difficult to adequately segregate duties. Segregation of accounting duties is a fundamental method of strengthening internal control. However, in deciding what internal control procedures should be implemented, the Township Board must consider the costs of implementing them and weigh those costs against the benefits to be derived from their implementation.

Township Board Clearwater Township July 15, 2008 Page 2

All Michigan governments are required to prepare financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principals (GAAP). This is a responsibility of the Township's management. The preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP requires internal controls over both (1) recording, processing, and summarizing accounting data (i.e., maintaining internal books and records), and (2) reporting government-wide and fund financial statements, including the related footnotes (i.e., external financial reporting). As is the case with most small and medium-sized entities, the Township has historically relied on its independent external auditor to assist in the preparation of the governmentwide financial statements and footnotes as part of its external financial reporting process. Accordingly, the Township's ability to prepare financial statements in accordance with GAAP is based, in part, on its reliance on its external auditors, who cannot, by definition, be considered a part of the government's internal controls. This condition was caused by the Township's determination that it is more cost effective to outsource the preparation of its annual financial statements to the auditors than to incur the time and expense of obtaining the necessary training and expertise required for the Township to perform this task internally.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or a combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by the Township's internal control. I believe that the deficiencies described above are material weaknesses.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of the Board and others within the organization. This restriction is not intended to limit the distribution of the report, which is a matter of public record.

JAMES M. ANDERSON, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT



#### James M. Anderson, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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July 15, 2008

Township Board Clearwater Township Kalkaska County, MI

#### Dear Board Members:

I have audited the financial statements of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Township of Clearwater for the year ended March 31, 2008, and have issued my report thereon dated July 15, 2008. Professional standards require that I provide you with the following information related to my audit.

### My Responsibility Under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and Government Auditing Standards

As stated in my engagement letter dated July 14, 2008, my responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform my audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement and are fairly presented in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting standards. Because an audit is designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance and because I did not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material misstatements may exist and not be detected by me.

As part of my audit, I considered the internal control of the Township of Clearwater. Such considerations were solely for the purpose of determining my audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of Clearwater Township's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. However, the objective of my tests was not to provide an opinion on compliance with such provisions.

#### Significant Accounting Policies

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of my engagement letter, I will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by the Township of Clearwater are described in Note A to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year. I noted no transactions entered into by the Township of Clearwater during the year that were both significant and unusual, and of which, under professional standards, I am required to inform you, or transactions for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

Township Board Clearwater Township July 15, 2008 Page 2

#### <u>Accounting Estimates</u>

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected.

#### Audit Adjustments

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define an audit adjustment as a proposed correction of the financial statements that, in my judgment, may not have been detected except through my auditing procedures. An audit adjustment may or may not indicate matters that could have a significant effect on Clearwater Township's financial reporting process (that is, cause future financial statements to be materially misstated). In my judgment, none of the adjustments I proposed, whether recorded or unrecorded by the Township of Clearwater, either individually or in the aggregate, indicate matters that could have a significant effect on Clearwater Township's financial reporting process.

#### Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to my satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. I am pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of my audit.

#### <u>Consultations with Other Independent Accountants</u>

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves applications of an accounting principle to the governmental unit's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditors' opinion that may be expressed on those statements, my professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with me to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To my knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

#### <u>Issues Discussed Prior to Retention of Independent Auditors</u>

I generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Clearwater Township's auditor. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of my professional relationship and my responses were not a condition to my retention.

Township Board Clearwater Township July 15, 2008 Page 3

#### <u>Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit</u>

I encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing my audit.

This information is intended solely for the use of management, Township Board and the Michigan Department of Treasury and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

James M. Anderson, P.C.

Certified Public Accountant